

SENATE PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR  
SENATE BILL 86

47TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2005

AN ACT

RELATING TO MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY; PROHIBITING THE VIEWING OF  
TELEVISION OR OTHER VIDEO MONITORS BY DRIVERS OF MOTOR  
VEHICLES; ENACTING AND REPEALING SECTIONS OF THE NMSA 1978.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. A new section of the Motor Vehicle Code is  
enacted to read:

"[NEW MATERIAL] FRONT SEAT TELEVISIONS AND VIDEO MONITORS  
PROHIBITED.--

A. Except as provided in Subsection B of this  
section, it is unlawful to operate a motor vehicle in this  
state while text or images are projected on a video receiver,  
viewer, screen, monitor or source of television or video  
signal, broadcast or recorded entertainment or business  
application if those images are visible to the person operating

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1 the motor vehicle, whether such device is permanently or  
2 temporarily installed.

3 B. This section does not apply to the following  
4 equipment:

- 5 (1) a vehicle information display;
- 6 (2) a navigation or global positioning  
7 display;
- 8 (3) a mapping display;
- 9 (4) a visual display used to monitor the area  
10 immediately to the rear or sides of a motor vehicle for the  
11 purpose of maneuvering the vehicle; or

12 (5) a television or other video receiver,  
13 viewer, screen, monitor or source of television or video  
14 signal, broadcast or recorded entertainment or business  
15 application if that equipment has a device that, when the motor  
16 vehicle is being driven, disables the equipment for all uses  
17 except as a visual display as described in Paragraphs (1)  
18 through (4) of this subsection.

19 C. This section does not apply to a recreational  
20 vehicle, to an authorized emergency vehicle or motor vehicle  
21 that provides emergency or roadside assistance or to a vehicle  
22 owned or operated by an electric, gas or telephone utility.

23 E. This section does not prohibit the use of  
24 television-type receiving equipment used exclusively for safety  
25 or traffic engineering studies or in police, sheriff or

1 emergency vehicles."

2 Section 2. REPEAL.--Section 66-7-358 NMSA 1978 (being  
3 Laws 1978, Chapter 35, Section 462, as amended by Laws 1989,  
4 Chapter 318, Section 31 and also by Laws 1989, Chapter 321,  
5 Section 1) is repealed.

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